

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05

OMB-01 /073 W

----- 110250

O P 031430Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6312

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 1599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, UNGA, CT

SUBJECT: CAR TO REESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

REF: (A) STATE 258673: (B) BANGUI 1562

1. PRESIDENT BOKASSA REAFFIRMED TO CHARGE IN REPLY TO QUESTION DURING PRIVATE CONVERSATION NOVEMBER 2 THAT HE PLANS TO REESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. (BANGUI 1562.)

2. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUESTIONS (STATE 258673, PARA TWO) BOKASSA DECLARED THAT AS TO TIMETABLE HE EXPECTED TO BE THE FIRST AFRICAN CHIEF OF STATE TO RESTORE DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL. MORE PRECISELY HE SAID THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN QUOTE THE NEXT MONTHS UNQUOTE.

3. BOKASSA ALSO SAID HE THOUGHT A NUMBER OF OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WOULD FOLLOW HIS LEAD AND RESUME RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. BOKASSA BERATED ARAB NATIONS FOR THEIR FAILURE TO PROVIDE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. HE AGAIN LAID AT ARAB'S DOORSTEP LARGE SHARE OF BLAME FOR PRICE INCREASES AND INFLATION. BOKASSA PRAISED AT GREAT LENGTH SECRETARY'S STEP BY STEP APPROACH
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IN MIDDLE EAST WHICH HE CALLED "COURAGEOUS AND WISE" ATTEMPT TO

FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE SITUATION.

4. VISIT BY ISRAELI DELEGATIONS AND BOKASSA'S REMARKS ON ISRAEL AT OCTOBER 28 RECEPTION (BANGUI 1562) HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC EVEN THOUGH CAR PRESS AND TELEVISION AND NUMBER OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL PERSONS WERE ALSO PRESENT. HOWEVER, WORD IS GETTING AROUND TWON AND HAS NOW REACHED ARAB AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS HERE. BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT UTMOST DISCRETION NECESSARY IN ORDER NOT QUEER DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP.

5. WITH THIS AS WELL AS GUIDANCE STATE 258673 IN MIND DECIDED AGAINST RAISING ZIONISM RESOLUTION DURING NOVEMBER 1-2 TRIP WITH PRESIDENT BOKASSA. AS IN PAST FEW DAYS WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE BOKASSA QUIETLY AS OCCASION PRESENTS ITSELF, TO CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO RESTORE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WHILE AVOIDING ANY IMPRESSION OF PUSHING OR OFFICIOUSNESS. SWING

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